

Appn. Serial No. 10/721,895
Filed: November 26, 2003
Docket No.: 8932-803-999
CAM No.: 232200-999210

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 9, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 3 is a perspective view of the bone plate of FIG. 1; and

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 7, line 10, with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 4 is a side view of the bone plate of FIG. 1; and-

Please add the following new paragraph at page 7, line 11:

FIG. 5 is a partial sectional view of the bone plate of FIG. 1, taken along line V-V.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 11, with the following amended paragraph:

A large number of screw holes 9, 10, 16, 17, and 24 may be located in the elongated shaft 1 and in the head 2. In one preferred embodiment, the screw holes 24 provided in the elongated shaft 1 may have an inside thread 28 intended to engage a head of a bone screw. By using screws with a threaded head, an angularly stable bone construct is formed which can maintain the hold of the bone plate even under dynamic conditions. Preferably, the inside thread may be multithreaded, for example, double-threaded, as shown in FIG. 5. In an alternative embodiment, holes 24 may include one or more partially peripheral wedge-shaped grooves or keys intended to engage a head of a bone screw. The central axes of the holes 24 in the elongated shaft may be substantially perpendicular to the upper and/or lower surfaces of the shaft 1.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 21, with the following amended paragraph:

The screw holes 9, 10, 16, 17, located in the head 2 of the bone plate P may also have an inside thread 27 for engaging a head of a bone screw. Thread 27 is preferably

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multithreaded, for example, double-threaded (similar to the configuration discussed above with reference to FIG. 5). The inside thread 27 may alternatively have partially peripheral wedge-shaped grooves or keys for engaging the head of a bone screw.